

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) An image display element, comprising:

a plurality of data lines to which display signals are applied, the data lines being embedded in a substrate;

a plurality of scan lines to which scan signals are applied, the scan lines being embedded in the substrate;

a first wire having a surface which is exposed, the first wire being electrically connected to one of the scan lines;

a second wire having a surface which is exposed, the second wire being arranged at a first distance of less than or equal to  $10\mu\text{m}$  from the first wire;

a liquid crystal layer disposed between the exposed surface of the first wire and the exposed surface of the second wire; and

an insulator in direct physical contact with the entire exposed surface of at least one of the first and second wires such that no portion of the at least one of the first and second wires is in direct physical contact with the liquid crystal layer; and

a counter substrate that is disposed opposite to the substrate,

wherein the counter substrate is disposed at a second distance from the substrate, and

wherein the insulator is a spacer that prescribes the second distance.

5. (Original) The image display element according to claim 4, wherein a potential of the second wire is substantially equal to a potential of a scan line other than the one scan line.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The image display element according to claim 4, further comprising:

a first pixel electrode and a second pixel electrode that are supplied with display signals from one of the data lines;

a first switching device that controls a supply of the display signal in the one data line, wherein the first switching device is electrically connected between the one data line and the first pixel electrode and that has a gate electrode;

a second switching device that is electrically connected between the gate electrode of the first switching device and the one scan line; and

a third switching device that is connected to the one data line and that controls a supply of the display signal to the second pixel electrode.

9. – 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) An image display device, comprising:

a data line driving circuit that supplies a display signal to a plurality of data lines;

a scan line driving circuit that supplies a scan signal to a plurality of scan lines;

a first wire embedded on a substrate and having a surface which is exposed, the first wire being electrically connected to one of the scan lines;

a second wire embedded on the substrate and having a surface which is exposed, the second wire being arranged at a first distance of less than or equal to 10 $\mu\text{m}$  from the first wire;

a liquid crystal layer disposed between the exposed surface of the first wire and the exposed surface of the second wire; and

an insulator in direct physical contact with the entire exposed surface of at least one of the first and second wires such that no portion of the at least one of the first and second wires is in direct physical contact with the liquid crystal layer; and

a counter substrate that is disposed opposite to the substrate,

wherein the counter substrate is disposed at a second distance from the substrate, and

wherein the insulator is a spacer that prescribes the second distance.

17. (Original) The image display device according to claim 16, wherein a potential of the second wire is substantially equal to a potential of a scan line other than the one scan line.

18. (Original) The image display device according to claim 16, further comprising:

a first pixel electrode and a second pixel electrode that are supplied with a display signal from a same data line;

a first switching device that controls the supply of the display signal from the data line to the first pixel electrode, and that is driven based on a scan signal supplied from a first scan line;

a second switching device that controls a supply of the display signal from the data line to the second pixel electrode, and that is driven based on a scan signal supplied from a second scan line subsequent to the first scan line; and

a third switching device that is driven based on the scan signal supplied from the first scan line, and that controls ON and OFF of the second switching device.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) The image display element according to claim 4, wherein the first distance from the second wire to the first wire is less than or equal to  $5\mu\text{m}$ .

22. (Previously Presented) The image display device according to claim 16, wherein the first distance from the second wire to the first wire is less than or equal to  $5\mu\text{m}$ .

23. (New) The image display element according to claim 4, wherein one of the first and second wires is in direct physical contact with the liquid crystal layer.

24. (New) The image display element according to claim 4, wherein the spacer extends through a thickness of the liquid crystal layer such that the spacer is in direct physical contact with the at least one of the first and second wires, the substrate, and the counter substrate.

25. (New) The image display element according to claim 4, wherein the liquid crystal layer is in direct physical contact with the substrate and the counter substrate.

26. (New) The image display device according to claim 16, wherein one of the first and second wires is in direct physical contact with the liquid crystal layer.

27. (New) The image display device according to claim 16, wherein the spacer extends through a thickness of the liquid crystal layer such that the spacer is in direct physical

contact with the at least one of the first and second wires, the substrate, and the counter substrate.

28. (New) The image display device according to claim 16, wherein the liquid crystal layer is in direct physical contact with the substrate and the counter substrate.